

The Rhetorical Précis Format

1. In a single coherent sentence give the following:
 - name of the author, title of the work, date in parenthesis;
 - a rhetorically accurate verb (such as "assert," "argue," "deny," "refute," "prove," "disprove," "explain," etc.);
 - a that clause containing the major claim (thesis statement) of the work.
2. In a single coherent sentence give an explanation of how the author develops and supports the major claim (thesis statement).
3. In a single coherent sentence give a statement of the author's purpose, followed by an "in order" phrase.
4. In a single coherent sentence give a description of the intended audience and/or the relationship the author establishes with the audience.

Example:

In the article, Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy, Terry Zeigler explains the symptoms, stages, causes, and research of Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy (CTE), a preventable brain disease. Zeigler details how CTE exhibits itself in individuals and what is still unknown of this relatively new research commonly found in athletes that participate in contact sports. The author asserts that current and future research must continue, in order for a better understanding of how to diagnose, treat and eradicate this debilitating disease. Parents, coaches, children, school districts, youth sports organizations, colleges and professional sport groups must become aware of the necessary steps in preventing and treating head injuries now and in the future.